

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02

/059 W

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R 232115Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8367

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 4687

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: DR, SHUM

SUBJECT: VISIT OF REPRESENTATIVE OF WASHINGTON OFFICE FOR LATIN  
AMERICA

1. JOSEPH ELDRIDGE OF WASHINGTON OFFICE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND  
DOUGLAS HOFSTADTER (PHONETIC) OF UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NATIONAL  
COMMITTEE, NEW YORK, CALLED AT EMBASSY TODAY AND ASKED TO SPEAK  
TO POLITICAL OFFICER, JAMES BUMPUS, "TO TEST OUT SOME ASSUMPTIONS."  
DURING THE TWO-HOUR CONVERSATION WHICH ENSUED, THE TWO EXPLAINED  
THAT FOR THE LAST MONTH THEY HAVE BEEN ON FACT-FINDING MISSION  
IN THE CARIBBEAN CONTACTING POLITICIANS, CHURCHMEN AND LABOR  
LEADERS TO GATHER IMPRESSIONS ABOUT THE STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS  
IN THE AREA.

2. THEY SAID THAT DURING THE WEEK WHICH THEY HAVE SPENT IN DR THEY  
HAVE CONTACTED RAFAEL TAVERAS (FAFA), THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE  
COMMUNIST MOVIMIENTO POPULAR DOMINICANO; LIC. SILVIO HERASME PENA,  
EDITOR OF SENSATIONALIST ANTI-US AFTERNOON DAILY, LAT NOTICIA;  
FRANCISCO SANTOS, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COMMUNIST DOMINATED  
CENTRAL GENERAL DE TRABAJADORES; AND ARISMENDEY DIAZ SANTANA, A  
RADICAL MARXIST ECONOMIST. ALTHOUGH ELDRIDGE AND HOFSTADTER ALSO  
MET WITH MORE RESPONSIBLE LEADERS SUCH AS JOSE FRANCISCO  
PENA GOMEZ AND JACOBO MAJLUTA OF THE PARTIDO  
REVOLUCIONARIO DOMINICANO, THEIR VIEWS APPEAR TO BE COLORED BY  
EXPOSURE TO THE EXTREMISTS. FOR EXAMPLE, ELDRIDGE AND HOFSTADTER  
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APPEARED CERTAIN THAT THE GODR OPENLY REPRESSES OPPOSITION

POLITICIANS, CONSISTENTLY UNDERMINES LABOR UNIONS AND COERCES  
THE PRESS.

3. BUMPUS TRIED TO PUT THE LOCAL SITUATION IN PERSPECTIVE FOR THE  
TWO AMERICANS AND, IN ADDITION, GAVE THEM A LONG LIST OF RESPONSIBLE,  
LOCAL POLITICIANS  
DOMINICANS WITH WHOM THEY MIGHT CHOOSE TO MEET  
TO GET MORE OBJECTIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOCAL SCENE. BOTH  
ELDRIDGE AND HOFSTADTER SEEMED APPRECIATIVE AND ASSURED THAT  
THEIR INTENTION WAS TO UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS REALLY HAPPENING IN  
THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.  
HURWITCH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, INFORMATION CONTROL, POLITICAL SITUATION, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, OTRA, DR, (ELDRIDGE, JOSEPH), (HOFSTADTER, DOUGLAS), (BUMPUS, JAMES)  
**To:** STATE  
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